



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/657,572 | 09/05/2003 | Jay T. Butler | 03-01 | 9864 |
| 30699 | 7590 | 03/15/2004 | EXAMINER | |
| DAYCO PRODUCTS, LLC 1 PRESTIGE PLACE MIAMISBURG, OH 45342 | | | NICHOLSON, ERIC K | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 3679 | |

DATE MAILED: 03/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 10/657,572 | BUTLER, JAY T. |
| | Examiner | Art Unit |
| | Eric K Nicholson | 3679 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>9-5-03</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 3679

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-6 and 8-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent application publication 2002/0060453 to Spurgat.

As to claims 1 and 8, Spurgat illustrates a hose 24 and a clamp 12 wherein the clamp includes a band 20 and a screw housing 12 mounted to the band with a screw 16 disposed in the housing and engaging the band for tightening the band. A cover 10 is shown in figs. 2-4 having an opening receiving the screw housing 12 and a cover portion 26 over the screw housing. A bonding surface 28, 52 extends from the cover portion to attach the cover to the hose (page 2, paragraph 0021) and extends from the cover portion to a position on the hose that is displaced from the screw and screw housing so that the cover bracket can be adhered to the hose without interfering with the clamp operation. As to claims 2 and 9, the bonding surface includes a pair of runners 28 extending from the base. As to claims 3, 4, 11 and 12 the runners are curved about the same curvature as the hose (page 1, paragraph 0018). As to claims 5 and 12, the cover is shown in figs. 2-4 with an inverted U-shaped cross-section. As to claims 6 and 13, the cover further

includes an inside surface 48 having an inset that retains the screw housing within the cover when the screw is operated (page 2, paragraph 0020).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 7 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent application publication 2002/0060453 to Spurgat in view of U.S. patent 5,675,871 to Webb et al.. Spurgat as noted above discloses the claimed invention except for the cover 10 which is said to be made of plastic (page 1, paragraph 0018) is not said to be made of nylon or HDPE as required by claims 7 and 14. Webb et al. discloses that it is known in the art to provide a similar type coupling with the hose clamp holder 20 being made of Nylon (column 3, lines 50-53) It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to construct the hose clamp holder 10 of Spurgat from Nylon as taught by Webb et al.

, since both are hose clamp holders in the same field of endeavor and it has been held to be within the general skill of a worker in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use as a matter of obvious design choice. *In re Leshin*, 125 USPQ 416.

Conclusion

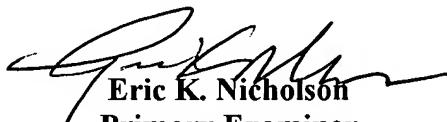
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Note the hose clamp covers 30 of Smith '565, Fig. 2 of German patent '274, Fig. 2 of Torres '337 and 26 of Petersen '252.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eric Nicholson whose telephone number is (703) 308-0829. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesdays thru Fridays from 7:30 to 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynne Browne, can be reached on (703) 308-1159. The fax phone number for Technology Center 3600 is (703) 872-9306

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

ekn
3/11/04
W@H



Eric K. Nicholson
Primary Examiner
Technology Center 3600